

REMARKS

This application contains claims 1-181, the status of which is as follows:

- (a) Claims 164-172 have been currently amended.
- (b) Claims 180-181 are new.
- (c) Claims 1-163 and 173-179 have been canceled. Applicant intends to prosecute these claims in a continuation application.

No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 163 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sultan (US Patent 6,135,945), and claim 171 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sultan, or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Sultan. While respectfully disagreeing with the Examiner's grounds for rejection, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the claims which were found allowable, Applicant has canceled claim 163, and amended claim 171 to depend from claim 172, which the Applicant believes is now allowable, as described hereinbelow. Applicant intends to address these rejections in a continuation application.

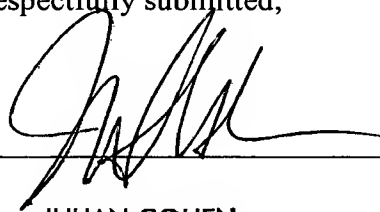
Claims 168 and 172 were objected to by the Examiner as depending from a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant has currently amended claim 168 to include the limitations of base claim 163, and has currently amended claim 172 to include the limitations of base claim 163 and intervening claim 171. Applicant believes that these amendments are fully responsive to the Examiner's objection, and therefore suggests that claims 168 and 172 are now in a condition for allowance.

Applicant has reinstated and currently amended previously withdrawn claims 164-167 and 169-171 to depend from currently amended claim 172. Because these dependent claims are of narrower scope than independent claim 172, Applicant suggests that claims 164-167 and 169-171 are now in a condition for allowance.

Applicant has added new claims 180 and 181 as dependent from currently amended claim 168. Other than their dependencies, these new claims are identical to claims 171 and 172 as originally filed. Because these dependent claims are of narrower scope than independent claim 168, Applicant suggests that claims 180 and 181 are now in a condition for allowance.

Applicant believes the amendments and remarks presented hereinabove to be fully responsive to all of the grounds of rejection and objection raised by the Examiner. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the present application are now in order for allowance. Notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julian Cohen', is written over a horizontal line.

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